

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 18, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and, in view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 71-91, 93-107, and 119-132 are currently pending in the application, with claims 71, 90, 119, and 126 being independent claims. Claims 92 and 108-118 are cancelled; claims 119-132 are added; and claims 90 and 93 are amended, in accordance with the above amendments.

The Office Action indicates that claims 71-86 are allowed. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider claims 87-89, which depend from claim 71. Furthermore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 87-89 should also be allowable as they depend from an allowable base claim.

The Office Action also indicates that claims 92-98 and 100 would be allowable if rewritten in independent claim format. Claim 90 substantially incorporates the recitation of claim 92. Claim 119 substantially incorporates the recitation of claim 90 (prior to this Amendment) and claim 94. In addition, claim 126 substantially incorporates the recitation of claim 90 (prior to this Amendment) and claim 100. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 90-91, 93-107, and 119-132 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in a condition for allowance. The Applicants respectfully request, therefore, that the rejections be withdrawn and that this application now be allowed. This Amendment is being timely filed by facsimile transmission on July 17, 2006. Should fees be deemed necessary for consideration of this Amendment, such fees are hereby requested and the Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account number 19-0733 for payment. If anything further is desirable to place the application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned representative at (503) 425-6800.

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Dated: July 17, 2006

Respectfully Submitted,


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